

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 104063

61

ORIGIN EA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY: EA/ANP:JFKNOWLES:MHS

APPROVED BY: EA/ANP:LJMOSE

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P 072236Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 7347

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104063

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 104063 ACTION SINGAPORE CINCPACREP
GUAM CINCPAC MANILA KUALA LUMPUR JAKARTA 5 MAY.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104063

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, VS, SN

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN SINGAPORE

REFS: (A) SINGAPORE 1827, (B) TELCOMS GRANT-TO-WAGNER
AND WAGNER-TO-GRANT MAY 5, 1975

REQUEST YOU MAKE VERY STRONG REPRESENTATIONS TO GOS ON
HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS THAT, AT MINIMUM, GOS NOT FORCE
REFUGEESVESSELS TO LEAVE FOR ANOTHER 72 RPT 72 HOURS TO
GIVE US OPPORTUNITY REVIEW AND PURSUE ALTERNATIVES. WE
DO NOT HAVE CAPACITY TO RESPOND IMMEDIATELY SINCE WE ARE
FACING OVERWHELMING CRUSH OF 70 - 80,000 PEOPLE ARRIVING
SUBIC SHORTLY WHO WILL SOON TAX ALL PACIFIC AREA FACILITIES.
WE ALSO RECEIVING VERY STRONG ADMONITIONS FROM THE CONGRESS,
WHICH NOT YET PASSED REFUGEE FUNDING BILL, TO INVOLVE OTHER
NATIONS TO MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE SINCE REFUGEES NOT VIEWED
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AS EXCLUSIVELY U.S. PROBLEM. IN THIS REGARD WE ARE WORKING

WITH INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES, ARE RECEIVING GOOD COOPERATION
FROM ICEM, AND HAVE MADE STRONG REPRESENTATIONS TO GET
UNHCR INVOLVED WHICH APPEAR ON VERGE OF BEARING FRUIT.
FINALLY, WE ARE SEEKING WIDER AUTHORITY FOR PAROLE AND HOPE
FOR AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE BY MIDWEEK. PENDING OUTCOME THESE
INITIATIVES, HOWEVER, MUST REQUEST YOU CONTINUE REFRAIN FROM
MAKING USG COMMITMENT AND THAT YOU INSTEAD MAKE STRONGEST

POSSIBLE PLEA TO GOS FOR HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE TO
IMMEDIATE SITUATION. KISSINGER UNQUOTE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, REFUGEE RELIEF, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE104063
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EA/ANP:JFKNOWLES:MHS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750156-0639
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750580/aaaacvsh.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SINGAPORE 1827, 75 TELCOMS GRANT-TO-WAGNER
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN SINGAPORE
TAGS: SREF, VS, SN, US
To: SINGAPORE CINCPAC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006